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Alleged Gang Members Charged with Murder, Robbery of Elderly Woman in Montrose

Two alleged gang members pleaded not guilty yesterday to the murder of a 67-year-old woman last month, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Devon T. White (dob 2/4/97) of Lynwood and James Wesley Trotter aka Man-Man (dob 11/7/95) of Long Beach each face one count of murder with a special circumstance allegation of murder during the commission of a robbery, second-degree robbery and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

The case alleges White personally used a handgun during the commission of the crime and that he was convicted in 2015 of possession for sale of cocaine base.

The felony complaint also includes allegations that Trotter was convicted of two counts of second-degree robbery and grand theft from the person of another in 2015 and pay for purpose of prostitution in 2014.

Deputy District Attorney Amy Ashvanian of the Hardcore Gang Division said both defendants are alleged to have committed the crimes in association with a criminal street gang.

White and Trotter were arraigned Wednesday and are scheduled to return to court on Sept. 21 in Department J of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pasadena Branch. Case GA101707 was filed on Aug. 21.

White and Trotter allegedly followed victim Hye Soon Oh from her business in Lynwood to her apartment complex in Montrose on Aug. 8, the prosecutor said. The victim was allegedly gunned down and robbed at her apartment building's parking garage, the prosecutor added.

If convicted as charged, both defendants face a possible maximum sentence of death or life in prison without the possibility of parole. A decision on whether to seek the death penalty will be made at a later date.

The two defendants remain in custody on no bail.

The case remains under investigation by the Glendale Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.